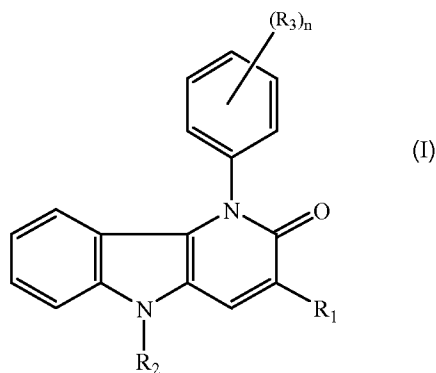


Listing of Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A compound of formula (I)



its *N*-oxide, salt, stereoisomeric form, racemic mixture, prodrug, ester or metabolite, wherein *n* is 1, 2 or 3;

*R*₁ is hydrogen, cyano, halo, aminocarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl,

C₁₋₄alkylcarbonyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl,

N-(aryl)-*N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminocarbonyl, methanimidamidyl, *N*-hydroxy-methanimidamidyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)methanimidamidyl, Het₁ or Het₂;

*R*₂ is hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀alkyl, C₂₋₁₀alkenyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, wherein said C₁₋₁₀alkyl, C₂₋₁₀alkenyl and

C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, each individually and independently, may be optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of cyano, NR_{4a}R_{4b}, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, piperazinyl, 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl,

1-oxothiomorpholinyl, 1,1-dioxo-thiomorpholinyl, aryl, furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl,

thiazolyl, imidazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, triazolyl,

tetrazolyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, triazinyl, hydroxycarbonyl,

C₁₋₄alkylcarbonyl, N(R_{4a}R_{4b})carbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, pyrrolidin-1-ylcarbonyl,

piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl, homopiperidin-1-ylcarbonyl, piperazin-1-ylcarbonyl, 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-

piperazin-1-ylcarbonyl, morpholin-1-ylcarbonyl, thiomorpholin-1-ylcarbonyl,

1-oxothiomorpholin-1-ylcarbonyl and 1,1-dioxo-thiomorpholin-1-ylcarbonyl;

*R*₃ is nitro, cyano, amino, halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkyloxy, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋

₄alkyloxycarbonyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbonyl,

methanimidamidyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)methanimidamidyl, *N*-hydroxy-methanimidamidyl

or Het₁;

R_{4a} is hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl or C₁₋₄alkyl substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of amino, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, piperazinyl, 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, 1-oxothiomorpholinyl and 1,1-dioxo-thiomorpholinyl;

R_{4b} is hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl or C₁₋₄alkyl substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of amino, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, piperazinyl, 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, 1-oxothiomorpholinyl and 1,1-dioxo-thiomorpholinyl;

aryl is phenyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents each individually selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, halo, hydroxy, amino, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, cyanoC₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl;

Het₁ is a 5-membered ring system wherein one, two, three or four ring members are heteroatoms each individually and independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and wherein the remaining ring members are carbon atoms; and, where possible, any nitrogen ring member may optionally be substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl; any ring carbon atom may, each individually and independently, optionally be substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkoxy, halo, amino, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyC₁₋₄alkyl, cyanoC₁₋₄alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, arylC₁₋₄alkyl, aminoC₂₋₆alkenyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₂₋₆alkenyl, furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, aryl, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbonyl, oxo, thio; and wherein any of the foregoing furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl and triazolyl moieties may optionally be substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl;

Het₂ is pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl or triazinyl, wherein any ring carbon atom of each of said 6-membered nitrogen containing aromatic rings may optionally be substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄alkyl;

provided that the compound of formula (I) is different from

2,5-dihydro-1-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-oxo-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile, and

2,5-dihydro-5-methyl-1-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-oxo-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein n is 1, R₃ is nitro, R₁ is cyano, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl or C₁₋₄alkylaminocarbonyl; and R₂ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl.

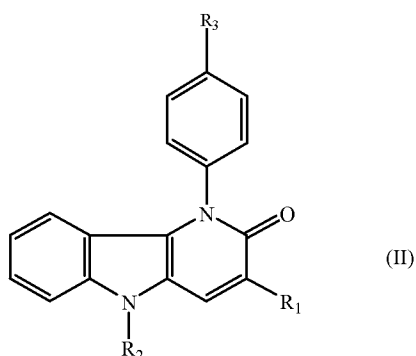
3. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein n is 1 or 2;
R₃ is nitro, cyano, amino, halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkyloxy, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, aminothiocarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbonyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)methanimidamidyl, *N*-hydroxy-methanimidamidyl or Het₁.

4. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₁ is hydrogen, cyano, halo, aminocarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, *N*-hydroxy-methanimidamidyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)methanimidamidyl, Het₁ or Het₂; and
aryl is phenyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents each individually selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, cyano, nitro; and
Het₁ is a 5-membered ring system wherein one, two, three or four ring members are heteroatoms each individually and independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and wherein the remaining ring members are carbon atoms; and, where possible, any nitrogen ring member may optionally be substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl; any ring carbon atom may, each individually and independently, optionally be substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, halo, cyano, trifluoromethyl, cyanoC₁₋₄alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₂₋₆alkenyl, isoxazolyl, aryl, hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, oxo, thio; and wherein the foregoing isoxazolyl may optionally be substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl; and
Het₂ is pyridyl.

5. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₂ is hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀alkyl, C₂₋₁₀alkenyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl or C₁₋₁₀alkyl substituted with substituent selected from the group consisting of cyano, NR_{4a}R_{4b}, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazinyl, morpholinyl, aryl, imidazolyl, pyridyl, hydroxycarbonyl, N(R_{4a}R_{4b})carbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl or 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazin-1-ylcarbonyl; and
R_{4a} is C₁₋₄alkyl; and
R_{4b} is C₁₋₄alkyl or C₁₋₄alkyl substituted morpholinyl.

6. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R_2 is hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or C_{1-10} alkyl substituted with substituent selected from the group consisting of cyano, $NR_{4a}R_{4b}$, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, 4-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-piperazinyl, morpholinyl, aryl, imidazolyl, pyridyl, hydroxycarbonyl, $N(R_{4a}R_{4b})$ carbonyl, C_{1-4} alkyloxycarbonyl or 4-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-piperazin-1-ylcarbonyl; and aryl is phenyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents each individually selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, cyano, nitro.
7. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R_2 is hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or C_{1-10} alkyl substituted with substituent selected from the group consisting of cyano, $NR_{4a}R_{4b}$, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, 4-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-piperazinyl, morpholinyl, aryl, imidazolyl, pyridyl, hydroxycarbonyl, $N(R_{4a}R_{4b})$ carbonyl, C_{1-4} alkyloxycarbonyl or 4-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-piperazin-1-ylcarbonyl; and aryl is phenyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents each individually selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, cyano, nitro; and R_{4a} is C_{1-4} alkyl; and R_{4b} is C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl substituted morpholinyl.
8. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R_3 is nitro, cyano, amino, halo, hydroxy, C_{1-4} alkyloxy, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, aminothiocarbonyl, C_{1-4} alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-4} alkylcarbonyl, mono- or di(C_{1-4} alkyl)methanimidamidyl, *N*-hydroxy-methanimidamidyl or Het_1 ; and Het_1 is a 5-membered ring system wherein one, two, three or four ring members are heteroatoms each individually and independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and wherein the remaining ring members are carbon atoms; and, where possible, any nitrogen ring member may optionally be substituted with C_{1-4} alkyl; any ring carbon atom may, each individually and independently, optionally be substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, halo, cyano, trifluoromethyl, cyano C_{1-4} alkyl, mono- or di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, mono- or di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino C_{2-6} alkenyl, isoxazolyl, aryl, hydroxycarbonyl, C_{1-4} alkyloxycarbonyl, oxo, thio; and wherein the foregoing isoxazolyl may optionally be substituted with C_{1-4} alkyl.

9. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein n is 1 or 2, more in particular wherein n is 1; and
 R₁ is hydrogen, cyano, halo, aminocarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, *N*-hydroxy-methanimidamidyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)methanimidamidyl, Het₁ or Het₂; and
 R₂ is hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀alkyl, C₂₋₁₀alkenyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl or C₁₋₁₀alkyl substituted with substituent selected from the group consisting of cyano, NR_{4a}R_{4b}, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazinyl, morpholinyl, aryl, imidazolyl, pyridyl, hydroxycarbonyl, N(R_{4a}R_{4b})carbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl or 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazin-1-ylcarbonyl; and
 R₃ is nitro, cyano, amino, halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkyloxy, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, aminothiocarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbonyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)methanimidamidyl, *N*-hydroxy-methanimidamidyl or Het₁.
10. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the compound has the formula (II)



11. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₃ is nitro.
12. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₁ is cyano.
13. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₁ is C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl or C₁₋₄alkylaminocarbonyl.
14. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₂ is C₂₋₆alkyl.

15. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the compound is n is 1,

R₁ is cyano, halo or oxadiazolyl optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkoxy, amino, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyC₁₋₄alkyl, cyanoC₁₋₄alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, arylC₁₋₄alkyl, aminoC₂₋₆alkenyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₂₋₆alkenyl, furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, aryl, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbonyl, oxo, thio; and wherein any of the foregoing furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl and triazolyl moieties may optionally be substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl;

R₂ is C₁₋₆alkyl, hydrogen, C₂₋₆alkenyl,

R₃ is nitro, C₁₋₆alkyl optionally substituted with piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, N(R_{4a}R_{4b}), morpholinyl, pyridyl, cyano, 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazin-1-yl.

16. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the compound is

1-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;

5-Methyl-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;

5-Isobutyl-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;

5-Allyl-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;

5-Butyl-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;

5-Ethyl-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;

5-(2-Morpholin-4-yl-ethyl)-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;

5-Methyl-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-1,5-dihydro-pyrido[3,2-b]indol-2-one;

5-But-3-enyl-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;

1-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-(2-pyrrolidin-1-yl-ethyl)-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;

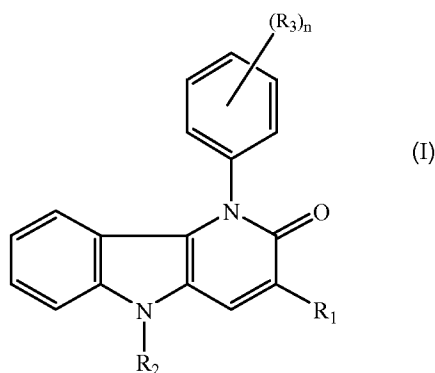
1-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethyl)-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;

5-(3-Dimethylamino-propyl)-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]-indole-3-carbonitrile;

3-Bromo-5-methyl-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-1,5-dihydro-pyrido[3,2-b]indol-2-one

- 5-Methyl-1-(3-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;
 1-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-(3-piperidin-1-yl-propyl)-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;
 5-(4-Morpholin-4-yl-butyl)-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;
 1-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-(4-pyrrolidin-1-yl-butyl)-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;
 5-[3-(4-Methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-propyl]-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;
 5-Cyanomethyl-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;
 5-(3-Morpholin-4-yl-propyl)-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;
 1-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-(4-piperidin-1-yl-butyl)-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;
 5-(4-Dimethylamino-butyl)-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;
 1-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-pyridin-4-ylmethyl-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrido[3,2-b]indole-3-carbonitrile;
 3-(5-tert-Butyl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl)-5-methyl-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-1,5-dihydro-pyrido[3,2-b]indol-2-one;
 5-Methyl-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-3-(5-trifluoromethyl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl)-1,5-dihydro-pyrido[3,2-b]indol-2-one; or an N-oxide, salt or stereoisomer thereof.

17. (Original) A compound of formula (I)



its *N*-oxide, salt, stereoisomeric form, racemic mixture, prodrug, ester or metabolite, wherein *n* is 1, 2 or 3;

*R*₁ is hydrogen, cyano, halo, aminocarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbonyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, *N*-(aryl)-*N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminocarbonyl, methanimidamidyl, *N*-hydroxymethanimidamidyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)methanimidamidyl, Het₁ or Het₂;

*R*₂ is hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀alkyl, C₂₋₁₀alkenyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, wherein said C₁₋₁₀alkyl, C₂₋₁₀alkenyl and C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, each individually and independently, may be optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of cyano, NR_{4a}R_{4b}, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, piperazinyl, 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, 1-oxothiomorpholinyl, 1,1-dioxo-thiomorpholinyl, aryl, furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, triazinyl, hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbonyl, N(R_{4a}R_{4b})carbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, pyrrolidin-1-ylcarbonyl, piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl, homopiperidin-1-ylcarbonyl, piperazin-1-ylcarbonyl, 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazin-1-ylcarbonyl, morpholin-1-ylcarbonyl, thiomorpholin-1-ylcarbonyl, 1-oxothiomorpholin-1-ylcarbonyl and 1,1-dioxo-thiomorpholin-1-ylcarbonyl;

*R*₃ is nitro, cyano, amino, halo, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkyloxy, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbonyl, methanimidamidyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)methanimidamidyl, *N*-hydroxy-methanimidamidyl or Het₁;

*R*_{4a} is hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl or C₁₋₄alkyl substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of amino, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, piperazinyl, 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, 1-oxothiomorpholinyl and 1,1-dioxo-thiomorpholinyl;

*R*_{4b} is hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl or C₁₋₄alkyl substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of amino, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, piperazinyl, 4-(C₁₋₄alkyl)-piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, 1-oxothiomorpholinyl and 1,1-dioxo-thiomorpholinyl;

aryl is phenyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents each individually selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, halo, hydroxy, amino, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, hydroxyc₁₋₆alkyl, cyanoC₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl;

Het₁ is a 5-membered ring system wherein one, two, three or four ring members are heteroatoms each individually and independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and wherein the remaining ring members are carbon atoms; and, where possible, any nitrogen ring member may optionally be substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl; any ring carbon atom may, each individually and independently, optionally be substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkoxy, halo, amino, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyC₁₋₄alkyl, cyanoC₁₋₄alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, arylC₁₋₄alkyl, aminoC₂₋₆alkenyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₂₋₆alkenyl, furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, aryl, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbonyl, oxo, thio; and wherein any of the foregoing furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl and triazolyl moieties may optionally be substituted with C₁₋₄alkyl;

Het₂ is pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl or triazinyl, wherein any ring carbon atom of each of said 6-membered nitrogen containing aromatic rings may optionally be substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄alkyl;

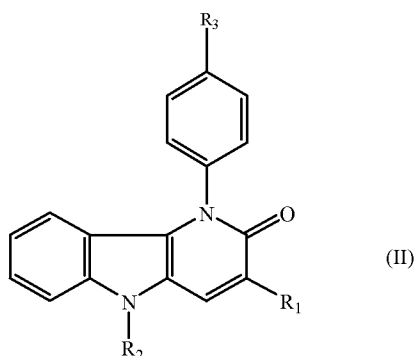
for use as a medicine.

18. (Original) A compound as described in claim 17 for use as a medicine wherein

R₁ is cyano, C₁₋₄alkyloxycarbonyl or C₁₋₄alkylaminocarbonyl;

R₂ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl;

19. (Previously presented) A compound as described in claim 17 for use as a medicine wherein the compound has the formula (II)



for use as a medicine.

20. (Previously presented) A compound as described in claim 17 wherein R_1 is cyano, methyloxycarbonyl, methylaminocarbonyl, ethylaminocarbonyl, ethyloxycarbonyl.
21. (Previously presented) A compound as described in claim 17 wherein R_2 is hydrogen or methyl.
22. (Previously presented) A compound as described in claim 17 wherein R_1 is cyano and R_2 is hydrogen or methyl.
23. (Previously presented) Use of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 17 for the manufacture of a medicament for preventing, treating or combating infection or disease associated with infection with HIV virus.
24. (Previously presented) Use of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 17 for the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting the replication of HIV virus.
25. (Previously presented) Use of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 23 characterized in that the reverse transcriptase of the HIV virus is mutant.
26. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising an effective amount of at least one compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 and a pharmaceutically tolerable excipient.
27. (Previously presented) A product containing at least one compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 and an antiretroviral agent as a combined preparation for the simultaneous, separate or sequential use in antiretroviral therapy.